

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RONALD J. TENPAS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 13, 2004, **ANTIONE D. COOK**, a/k/a “Pee Wee,” age 23, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. COOK, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment, charging conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, § 841, was sentenced to 120 months’ imprisonment, 5 years supervised release, and was fined \$150.

The investigation established that COOK and co-defendant DIONNA C. DEVILLE were distributing crack cocaine from DEVILLE’s Murphysboro residence. On April 2, 2003, April 30, 2003, and May 5, 2003, COOK sold crack cocaine to a confidential source working for police. When a search warrant was executed at DEVILLE’s residence, agents located crack cocaine, cannabis, drug packaging materials and United States currency. DEVILLE was previously sentenced to 70 months’ imprisonment for her role in the crack cocaine conspiracy.

The investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department, Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Southern Illinois Enforcement Group pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses in the system that will get them the most time. The Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney’s Office, Jackson County States Attorney’s Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Carbondale Police Department, Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Murphysboro Police Department, and Southern Illinois Enforcement Group.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.